



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE:

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**Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department Awarded
Nebraska Environmental Trust Grant**

Lincoln, NE – July 11, 2011 – The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD) has received \$100,000 from the Nebraska Environmental Trust for a two-year project to help people properly dispose of old medication at their local pharmacies. “We care about the public’s safety and protecting our environment,” said Dan King, at the LLCHD. “Working with local pharmacies, our goal is to create an easy and safe way for people to dispose of unwanted medications. This will protect our water and prevent drug abuse.”

The Health Department worked with the Nebraska MEDS (Medication Education for Disposal Strategies) committee that includes: Nebraska Pharmacists Association, Nebraska Board of Pharmacy, Nebraska Regional Poison Center, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality, The Groundwater Foundation, LiveWise Coalition, Lincoln Police Department, and Guardian Angels on the grant. This committee has been working since 2008 to educate pharmacists and the public about the right way to get rid of old medication. The committee studied the issues, reviewed laws, and provided education across the state on safe drug disposal. “Many people want an easy and safe way to remove old and unwanted drugs from the home. This grant will help to do just that,” said King.

This is one of the 94 projects statewide receiving a total of \$15,412,788 in grant awards from the Nebraska Environmental Trust this year. Using revenue from the Nebraska Lottery, the Trust has provided over \$172 million in grants to 1,292 conservation projects across the state since 1994.

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